

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 01254 170826Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 TRSE-00 CTME-00 OMB-01 SP-02 PA-01 ICA-11
STR-07 AID-05 /072 W
-----117590 172049Z /62

R 151145Z JUN 78
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6343
INFO USDOC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ETRD, BEXP, IZ
SUBJ: EAA REGULATIONS: IRAQI BOYCOTT POLICY

REF (A) BAGHDAD 1222, (B) BAGHDAD A-29 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. AS THE DATE APPROACHES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF EAA
PROVISIONS CONCERNING CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN, RUMOURS HAVE
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BEGUN TO CIRCULATE IN BAGHDAD THAT GOI WILL BAN IMPORTS FROM
U.S. WITH EFFECT FROM JUNE 22, 1978. USINT DOUBTS THAT RUMORS
ARE CORRECT BUT GOI POLICY OF LIMITING IMPORTS TO URGENTLY
NEEDED ITEMS AND REPAIR PARTS IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE.
END SUMMARY.

2. A SPATE OF RUMORS HAVE SURFACED IN BAGHDAD IN THE PAST

FEW DAYS ALLEGING THAT GOI WILL BAN IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. AS THE FINAL PROVISIONS OF THE EAA COME INTO EFFECT. SPECIFICALLY, IT WAS CLAIMED THAT RAFIDAIN AND CENTRAL BANKS WOULD NO LONGER OPEN LETTERS OF CREDIT IN FAVOR OF U.S. BENEFICIARIES. IN ALL CASES, THE RUMORS WERE SECOND OR THIRD HAND AND CAME TO USINT FROM NON-IRAQI SOURCES.

3. AS NOTED IN REF A, FONMIN DG FOR BOYCOTT AFFAIRS DENIED TO USINT OFFICERS THAT A BAN WAS BEING CONTEMPLATED. REF B, REPORTED THAT GOI TRADE REGULATION COUNCIL, WHICH DETERMINES IRAQI COMMERCIAL POLICY, ISSUED DECISION NUMBER 54 ON JANUARY 15, 1978, GRANTING AUTHORITY TO WAIVE BOYCOTT REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPORT OF REPAIR PARTS AND EQUIPMENT NECESSARY TO COMPLETE PROJECTS UNDERWAY. WHILE THIS DECREE CONSPICUOUSLY OMITTED ANY MENTION OF BOYCOTT POLICY CONCERNING NEW PROJECTS AND IMPORT REQUIREMENTS, USINT BELIEVES THAT GOI WILL CONTINUE TO IMPORT FROM U.S. SOURCES IF SUITABLE ITEMS ARE NOT AVAILABLE ELSEWHERE. COMPANIES WHICH HAVE HAD SATISFACTORY DEALINGS WITH IRAQI IMPORTING AGENCIES IN THE PAST SHOULD BE ABLE TO CONTINUE TO EXPORT TO IRAQ, BUT NEW-TO-MARKET FIRMS WILL FIND MARKET PENETRATION DIFFICULT.

4. RAFIDAIN BANK OFFICIALS TODAY DENIED TO USINT OFFICER THAT REGULATIONS CONCERNING OPENING OF LC'S HAVE CHANGED SINCE DECISION 54 WAS ISSUED. FIRMS WHICH HAVE ENCOUNTERED BOYCOTT LANGUAGE PROBLEMS IN IRAQI L/C'S HAVE GENERALLY BEEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUCCESSFUL IN HAVING THE OFFENDING LANGUAGE DELETED UPON REQUEST FROM THE IRAQI IMPORTING AGENCY.

5. USINT DOES NOT ANTICIPATE A MAJOR CHANGE IN IRAQI BOYCOTT POLICY AS THE EAA COMES FULLY INTO EFFECT, BUT IN THIS SECRETIVE COUNTRY IT IS DIFFICULT TO BE SURE. WE WILL CONTINUE TO TRACK DOWN RUMORS AS THEY ARISE.
PECK

NOTE BY OC/T: MESSAGE DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BOYCOTTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: BAGHDAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780658/aaaabxit.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 24a76088-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Review Content Flags:
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: EAA REGULATIONS: IRAQI BOYCOTT POLICY
TAGS: ETRD, BEXP, IZ
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